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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/624,778	07/25/2000	Fred S. Cook	1399	7227

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EXAMINER

NAJJAR, SALEH

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2157

121

DATE MAILED: 03/09/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/624,778

Applicant(s)

COOK, FRED S.

Examiner

Saleh Najjar

Art Unit

2157

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 December 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,10,29 and 41-58 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,10,29 and 41-58 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

1. This action is responsive to the Request for Continued Examination filed on December 29, 2003. Claims 1, 10, 29, 44, 45, 50, 51, 56, 57 were amended. Claims 1, 10, 29, and 41-58 are pending. Claims 1, 10, 29, and 41-58 represent method program and apparatus directed toward scheduled alias resolution.

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1, 10, 29, 41, 43-46, 47, 49-52, 53, and 55-58 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cunningham et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,493,765.

Cunningham teaches the invention substantially as claimed including a Domain Name in a network having multiple overlapping address domains (see abstract).

As to claim 1, Cunningham teaches a method of operating an access system including an access server to provide access between a user system and a plurality of communication networks that provide services to a user, the method comprising:

receiving in the access server a user data packet from the user system with the user data packet including a first destination Domain Name (see figs. 1-11; col. 7, Cunningham discloses that request message is sent from a source host including a destination host domain name);

translating the user data packet into a network data packet by replacing the first destination domain name with a second destination network address that relates to a selected one communication network of the plurality of communication networks (see col. 8-9, Cunningham discloses that the destination domain name address is replaced with a global destination domain name address); and

routing the network data packet to the selected one communication network based on the destination network address, wherein the translating enables communication of the user network packet to the selected one communication network without inclusion of the destination network address in the user data packet (see col. 9-10, Cunningham discloses that the global destination host address is replaced with a destination local address).

Cunningham does not explicitly teach the limitation of an "alias".

However, Cunningham teaches domain name resolution which uses a prefix naming system to signify the name, organization, or identity of the network (see col. 1-3).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Cunningham by specifying the domain names as aliases since the same functionality of simplifying network addresses is achieved.

As to claims 41, and 43, Cunningham teaches the method of claim 1 further comprising translating the user data packet according to a domain name schedule, the domain name schedule being configurable (see col. 5, Cunningham discloses that a domain name table is configurable and can be set up manually or automatically by an administrator).

As to claim 44, Cunningham teaches the method of claim 1 further comprising: generating and transmitting a translation request including the destination domain to a database system; and receiving a reply from the database system, with the reply including the destination network address (see col. 5-9, Cunningham discloses that the host transmits a translation request to a DNR).

As to claim 45, Cunningham teaches the method of claim 44 further comprising storing the destination network address in a Network address table schedule (see col. 5-7, Cunningham discloses a configurable Network address table NAT 102).

As to claim 46, Cunningham teaches the method of claim 44 wherein the generating and transmitting are performed in response to a determination that a domain name translation does not exist in an NAT (see col. 5-7).

Claims 10, 29, 47, 49-52, 53, and 55-58 do not teach or define any new limitations above claims 1, 41, 43-46 and therefore are rejected for similar reasons.

4. Claims 42, 48, and 54 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cunningham further in view of Voit, U.S. Patent No. 6,282,574.

Cunningham teaches the invention substantially as claimed including a Domain Name in a network having multiple overlapping address domains (see abstract).

As to claim 42, Cunningham teaches the method of claim 41.

Cunningham does not explicitly teach the claimed limitation wherein the alias schedule selects an alias translation according to a current time.

However, Voit teaches an enhanced name translation server for use on a data packet network where conditional analysis is executed in response to name translation queries (see abstract). Voit teaches the limitation wherein the alias schedule selects an alias translation according to a current time (see col. 9, Voit discloses that name translation depends on the time the translation request is received).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Cunningham in view of Voit so that time based name translation is performed. One would be motivated to do so to allow a destination user to receive communications destined to the user at different network connection points.

Claims 48, and 54 do not teach or define any new limitations above claim 42 and therefore are rejected for similar reasons.

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 10, 29, and 41-58 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Saleh Najjar whose telephone number is (703) 308-7613. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 6:30 to 3:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, *Ario Etienne*, can be reached on (703) 308-7562. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 308-9052.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-9600. The fax number for the After-Final correspondence/amendment is (703) 746-7238. The fax number for official correspondence/amendment is (703) 746-7239. The fax number for Non-official draft correspondence/amendment is (703) 746-7240.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Saleh Najjar', with a stylized, cursive script.

Saleh Najjar
Primary Examiner / Art Unit 2157